## Senate State & Local Government Committee Amendment #2

## Amendment No. 2 to SB0956

## <u>Cohen</u> Signature of Sponsor

| AMEND | Senate | Bill | No. | 956 |
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it.

House Bill No. 301\*

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| Date       |  |  |  |
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| Clerk      |  |  |  |
| Comm. Amdt |  |  |  |
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by deleting all language following the enacting clause and substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 65, Chapter 32, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated part:

§ 65-32-201. As used in this part, unless the context otherwise requires, "utility" means any utility furnishing electrical, gas or water services to users for a fee. § 65-32-202.

- (a) On or before July 1, 2005, each trade association or other similar entity representing two or more utilities in the state shall develop and distribute to its members a model policy for handling the discontinuation of utility services for nonpayment of fees and for establishing alternative payment arrangements for a user who has provided the utility with notarized documentation from his or her attending physician stating that the user is currently hospitalized or has been hospitalized within the preceding thirty (30) calendar days.
- (b) On or before January 1, 2006, each utility shall use the model policy or policies provided to it pursuant to subsection (a) as a guide and shall develop its own policy for handling the discontinuation of utility services for nonpayment of fees and for establishing alternative payment arrangements for a user who is currently hospitalized or has been hospitalized within the preceding thirty (30) calendar days.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring